

PUBLIC NOTICE

MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (MDNS)

The Washington State Department of Ecology issued a Mitigated Determination of Nonsignificance (MDNS) under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) for the proposed Columbia Ethanol Facility. The project proponent, Columbia Renewable Energy, Inc., would construct and operate an ethanol manufacturing plant on a 30-acre site southeast of Kennewick, near Finley, Washington. The plant would occupy a parcel adjacent to both the Columbia River and an existing Agrium US Inc. Finley fertilizer plant.

Using field corn as feedstock, the plant would produce approximately 55 million gallons of ethanol per year. The producer would collect the ethanol in above-ground tanks to blend with unleaded gasoline. The plant would store the blended product in its two largest tanks (750,000 gallon capacity) on site until transfer to trucks or rail cars for transport off-site.

After review of the completed SEPA Environmental Checklist, the SEPA Addendum, and other information on file with the agency, Ecology determined this proposal with mitigation conditions agreed to by the applicant, will not result in "significant adverse impact" to the environment. We do not require the proponent to file an environmental impact statement (EIS) under RCW 43.21C.030 (2)(c) .

Copies of the Environmental Checklist, the Addendum, and the revised noise survey are available at no cost from either:

Nancy Kmet, Industrial Section
Department of Ecology
PO Box 47706
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

or Holly Cushman, Central Region
Department of Ecology
15 West Yakima Avenue, #200
Yakima, WA 98902-3401.

Electronic copies are available from Nancy Kmet at: nkme461@ecy.wa.gov or from Dolores Mitchell at: dmit461@ecy.wa.gov.

Ecology issues this MDNS as prescribed under WAC 197-11-340 and WAC 197-11-350; but we will not act on this proposal for 14 days after September 28, 2006. If you think this SEPA Determination was based on faulty information, write to us. Ecology must receive any written comments no later than the close of business on October 12, 2006. Send your comments to Nancy Kmet, SEPA Responsible Official, at the address above (left).